

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. An isolated nucleic acid having the sequence depicted in Figure
2 3, SEQ ID NO: 1.
- 1 2. An isolated nucleic acid that hybridize to a nucleic acid as defined
2 in claim 1 under stringent hybridization conditions.
- 1 3. A nucleic acid vector comprising a nucleic acid as defined in claim
2 1 operably linked to a transcription regulatory element.
- 1 4. A cell comprising a vector as defined in claim 3.
- 1 5. A cell as defined in claim 4, wherein said cell is a member selected
2 from the group consisting of bacterial, fungal, insect, and mammalian cells.
- 1 6. A method for producing a polypeptide, which comprises:
2 (i) culturing a cell as defined in claim 5 under conditions
3 suitable for the expression of *C. albicans* TAF 145 polypeptide; and
4 (ii) recovering said polypeptide from said culture.
- 1 7. An isolated polypeptide having the amino acid sequence depicted
2 in Figure 3, SEQ ID NO:2.
- 1 8. A fragment of a polypeptide as defined in claim 7 which inhibits
2 the interaction of said polypeptide and TATA-box Binding Protein (TBP).
- 1 9. A method for inhibiting fungal transcription in a *C. albicans* cell
2 comprising contacting said cell with an agent that selectively interferes with the

1 interaction of the polypeptide of claim 7 and TATA Binding Protein (TBP) .

1 10. An antibody that specifically recognizes *C. albicans* TAF 145
2 polypeptide.

1 11. A method for rapid, large-scale screening to identify a ligand that
2 binds to a *C. albicans* TAF 145 protein from a plurality of test compounds not known to
3 bind *C. albicans* TAF 145 protein, said *C. albicans* TAF 145 protein having been
4 incubated in the presence and absence of a plurality of test compounds under conditions
5 sufficient to unfold *C. albicans* TAF 145 protein in the absence of test compounds, which
6 comprises:

7 detecting an increase or a decrease in the amount of *C. albicans* TAF 145
8 protein in the folded state; and

9 determining that said test compound is a ligand that binds to said *C.*
10 *albicans* TAF 145 protein if there is detected an increase or a decrease in the amount of
11 said *C. albicans* TAF 145 protein in the folded state in the presence of said test
12 compound.

1 12. A method for rapid, large-scale screening to identify a ligand that
2 binds to a *C. albicans* TAF 145 protein from a plurality of test ligands not known to bind
3 to said *C. albicans* TAF 145 protein, said *C. albicans* TAF 145 protein having been
4 incubated in the presence and absence of a plurality of test ligands which comprises:

5 subjecting said *C. albicans* TAF 145 protein to unfolding conditions;
6 detecting an increase or a decrease in the amount of *C. albicans* TAF 145
7 protein in the folded state; and

8 determining that said test compound is a ligand that binds to said *C.*
9 *albicans* TAF 145 protein if there is detected an increase or a decrease in the amount of
10 said *C. albicans* TAF 145 protein in the folded state in the presence of said test
11 compound.

1 13. A method for rapid, large-scale screening to identify a ligand that
2 binds to a *C. albicans* TAF 145 protein from a plurality of test ligands not known to bind
3 to a *C. albicans* TAF 145 protein which comprises:

4 incubating said *C. albicans* TAF 145 protein in the presence and absence
5 of a plurality of test ligands;

6 subjecting said *C. albicans* TAF 145 protein to unfolding conditions; and

7 detecting an increase or a decrease in the amount of *C. albicans* TAF 145
8 protein in the folded state, wherein said increase or said decrease identifies a test ligand
9 that binds to said *C. albicans* TAF 145 protein.

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